

**From:** [Rodrigues, Paul A. \(EOIR\)](#)  
**To:** [Alder Reid, Lauren \(EOIR\)](#); [All of BIA \(EOIR\)](#); [All of Court Administrators \(EOIR\)](#); [All of Judges \(EOIR\)](#); [All of OCIJ HDO \(EOIR\)](#); [Anderson, Jill \(EOIR\)](#); [Apolito, Ingrid \(EOIR\)](#); [Barry, Robert \(EOIR\)](#); [Burgie, Brea \(EOIR\)](#); [Cicolini, Pietro \(EOIR\)](#); [Ciulla, Nancy \(EOIR\)](#); [Cunningham, Jennifer L. \(EOIR\)](#); [David Vignol; Dever, Jeanette; Don Lewis; List Admin, ProBono \(EOIR\)](#); [Ellen Garber; Fleener, Danny L. \(EOIR\)](#); [Gray, Gracie \(EOIR\)](#); [Harris, Alethea \(EOIR\)](#); [Jennifer McGraw; Jennifer Plateski; John Kelley; Kier, Diane \(EOIR\)](#); [Kuiken, Celia \(EOIR\)](#); [McDowell, Ben \(EOIR\)](#); [Michael Jordan; Michael Zachary; Mittelstadt, Matthew James. \(EOIR\)](#); [Moore-Estes, Summer \(EOIR\)](#); [Nieves, Manuel A. \(EOIR\)](#); [Noferi, Mark \(EOIR\)](#); [Noonen, John; O'Connell, Catherine; Park, Jeannie \(EOIR\)](#); [Peter Shaw; Rachel Dinetz; Ramirez, Sergio \(EOIR\)](#); [Rich, John \(EOIR\)](#); [Rimmer, Phillip \(EOIR\)](#); [Rodrigues, Paul A. \(EOIR\)](#); [Ruffino, Lou \(EOIR\)](#); [Silber, Rachel; Vick, Lindsay \(EOIR\)](#); [Wade, Catherine; Williams, Tiffany \(EOIR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Recently Disciplined Practitioners, Reinstated Practitioners, and Updated List  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 27, 2018 4:34:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [Atty Discipline Chart Primary.docx](#)

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Please see the attached document for a list of currently disciplined practitioners as of June 26, 2018. I would ask each Court Administrator to post this entire list in a conspicuous place in order to inform the public of the status of these practitioners. This list will be updated as orders are issued by the Board of Immigration Appeals or the Immigration Courts. Names of reinstated practitioners will be removed from the list after 6 months.

### **Recently vacated suspension:**

**Vincent M. Ekeh** – On June 25, 2018, the Board vacated the November 22, 2017 immediate suspension issued to Attorney Ekeh. The Board found that Attorney Ekeh's 2007 suspension from the practice of law in Kansas for failure to fulfill continuing legal education requirements and pay the non-compliance fee was not "discipline" for purposes of an immediate suspension or reciprocal discipline pursuant to 8 C.F.R. §§ 1003.102(e), 1003.103(a)(4). The Board noted that its order did not authorize Attorney Ekeh to practice before EOIR or DHS.

**Confidential Discipline** - Since the last update, the EOIR Disciplinary Counsel has issued confidential discipline to **0** practitioners.

EOIR's Attorney Discipline Program now has a dedicated e-mail address that EOIR employees may use to report misconduct by private immigration practitioners. The e-mail address is [EOIR.Attorney.Discipline@usdoj.gov](mailto:EOIR.Attorney.Discipline@usdoj.gov) and appears in the global address list as: Attorney Discipline, EOIR.

Please note that pursuant to Chapter 10.9 of the Immigration Court Practice Manual and Chapter 11.10 of the Board of Immigration Appeals' Practice Manual, a disciplined practitioner is obligated to advise all clients whose cases are pending before the Immigration Court or the Board that he or she has been disciplined. The Immigration Court Practice Manual further states:

Once a practitioner has been expelled or suspended [by an order issued by the Board or an Adjudicating Official], the practitioner's pending cases are deemed unrepresented. The Immigration Court rejects filings that are submitted by a practitioner after he or she has been expelled or suspended [by an order issued by the Board or an Adjudicating Official].

The Board's Practice Manual has a similar provision. Therefore, a disciplined practitioner has no authority to make any requests, including motions for continuances, in any of his or her former clients' cases, and the Immigration Courts and the Board do not, and should not, deal with a disciplined practitioner concerning his or her former clients' cases.

Also please note that if a practitioner is suspended or expelled, he or she may resume representation of former clients only after the Board issues an order granting reinstatement. Furthermore, they are then required to enter a new Notice of Entry of Appearance form in each case, even if he or she was the attorney at the time that discipline was imposed. Immigration Court Practice Manual Ch. 10.10(d); Board's Practice Manual Ch. 11.10(b), 11.12(c); EOIR Rules of Professional Conduct, 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(c).

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